

**HIGH POINT CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2022 – 5:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

MINUTES

ROLL CALL, MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Wagner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

*Upon call of the roll, the following Council Members were **Present (8):***

Mayor Jay W. Wagner; Mayor Pro Tem Britt Moore, At Large; Council Member Tyrone E. Johnson, At Large; Council Member Cyril A. Jefferson, Ward 1; Council Member Christopher Williams, Ward 2; Council Member S. Wesley Hudson, Ward 4; Council Member Victor A. Jones, Ward 5; and Council Member Michael A. Holmes, Ward 6.

*The following Council Member was **Absent (1):***

Mayor Pro Tem Monica L. Peters, Ward 3

Mayor Wagner called for a Moment of Silence. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE- Blight Reduction and Marketing & Branding Initiative

2022-5

Strategic Plan Update

Council Member Chris Williams, Chairman of the Community Development Committee, will recognize staff to provide an update on the Strategic Plan regarding Blight Reduction. Council Member Michael Holmes, Chairman of the Marketing & Branding Task Force, will provide an update on the Marketing & Branding Initiative.

Blight Initiative

Councilman Williams, Chairman of the Community Development Committee, provided an update on the housing activities for the month of December 2021 as follows:

Code Enforcement Activity	December 2021
Minimum Housing Complaints	25
Active Minimum Housing Cases	234
Cases before Council (demolition)	2
City demolished houses	0
Public Nuisance Complaints	20
Active Public Nuisance Cases	31
City Abated Public Nuisance Cases	9
Owner Abated Public Nuisance Cases	12
Zoning Complaints (vehicles, signs, etc..)	19
Active Zoning Cases	93
Signs Collected	220
Total Active Cases	358

Lori Loosemore, Code Enforcement Manager, reported that there were 2,015 signs collected in 2021 and shared some examples of signs that are picked up by staff on the weekends. She also shared a photograph of a truck parked in the right-of-way at a business which is in violation of the Development Ordinance.

Council Member Jones asked if staff makes phone calls to the phone numbers on the signs to let the companies/individuals know that the signs are in violation. Ms. Loosemore replied that staff does make notifications especially in cases of repeat offenders and also sends notices of violations, documents it and sends civil penalties as well.

Marketing & Branding Initiative

Council Member Michael Holmes, Marketing & Branding Task Force Chairman, reported that the Marketing & Branding Task Force did meet in December and heard a great presentation by Civic Brand, who has been selected to lead the marketing and branding effort. He advised that the final details are being worked on which will come before the City Council and hopefully they would be able to kick off the process in February.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

2022-6

Public Comment Period

A Public Comment Period will be held on the first Monday of the regular City Council meeting schedule at 5:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible following recognitions, awards and presentations. Our policy states persons may speak on any item not on the agenda.

- Persons who have signed the register to speak shall be taken in the order in which they are listed. Others who wish to speak and have not signed in will be taken after those who have registered.
- Persons addressing City Council are asked to limit their comments to 3 minutes.
- Citizens will be asked to come to the podium, state their name and address and the subject(s) on which they will comment.

- If a large number of people are present to register concerns about the same subject, it is suggested that they might be acknowledged as a unified group while a designated speaker covers the various points. This helps to avoid repetition while giving an opportunity for people present with the same concerns to be recognized.

Thanks to everyone in the audience for respecting the meeting by refraining from speaking from the audience, applauding speakers, or other actions that distract the meeting.

Richard Marshall, representing GEA, 100 Fairway Court, Northvale, New Jersey, addressed Council regarding matter 2021-572 that is on the Finance Committee Consent agenda and asked that the matter be returned for further evaluation and involvement of the city attorney to help address legal concerns and differences regarding the recent bid that was solicited for the Westside WWTP Sludge Dewatering system. He noted GEA's bid was deemed to be non-responsive based on their unwillingness to accept unlimited liquidated damages and pointed out that GEA is able and fully willing to accept liquidated damages on items they can control such as submittals and equipment delivery. He shared that one can only interpret that unlimited liquidated damages apparently worth \$100,000 were set in order for the other vendor to be deemed responsive and felt the ratepayers and taxpayers in the city deserve to know why the city is willing to pay \$100,000 more for a piece of equipment.

Louis Thibodeaux, a resident at 1222 Kensington Drive, thanked council members for their service and thanked all those who had a part in restoring power to those residents that were without power because of a recent storm.

There being no one else to speak, the mayor declared the Public Comment Period closed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Britt Moore, Chair
Committee Members: Moore, Holmes, Jones, and Peters

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Pro Tem Moore, Finance Committee Chairman, reported that the Finance Committee did meet on December 30th and recommended the matters under the Consent Agenda be forwarded to the City Council with a favorable recommendation for approval. He reported that the concerns brought before Council tonight were addressed to the Finance Committee by staff, the Legal team, and the purchasing department as to justification of the decision that was made and that the Finance Committee was in agreement with staff's decision, so the matter would remain on the Consent Agenda with a favorable recommendation for approval of award of the bid to Alfa Laval.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore then moved approval of all matters on the Finance Committee Consent Agenda. Council Member Jones made a second to the motion. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

2021-569 Establish Public Hearing - 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant

City Council is requested to establish a public hearing date of Monday, January 18th at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comments on the funding for the 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Funding (JAG).

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Jones, to establish a public hearing date on Monday, January 18, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. to receive public comments on the funding for the 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funding (JAG). The motion carried by the following unanimous 8-0 vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

2021-570 Contract - Change Order #1 - Breece Enterprises, Inc. - East State Avenue Water & Sewer Phase 2-Replace Manhole

City Council is requested to approve Change Order #1 with Breece Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$79,400.00 for replacement of the manhole, associated sanitary sewer connections, and asphalt resurfacing of the intersection after utility construction is complete and that the appropriate City official and/or employee be authorized to execute all necessary documents.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve Change Order #1 to the Breece Enterprises contract in the amount of \$79,400.00 for replacement of the manhole, associated sanitary sewer connections, and asphalt resurfacing of the East State intersection after utility construction is complete and to authorize the appropriate city official and/or employee to execute all necessary documents. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

2021-571 Contract - Furniture Market Transportation Grant Agreement - North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) - Public Transportation Division

City Council is requested to approve a grant agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), Public Transportation Division to annually provide financial assistance to assist with transportation services during each of the bi-annual Furniture Markets and that the City Manager be authorized to enter into a contract with the Department of Transportation and execute all agreements and contracts with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), Public Transportation Division.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve a grant agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), Public Transportation Division, to annually provide financial assistance with transportation services during each of the bi-annual Furniture Markets and to authorize the city manager to enter into a contract with the Department of Transportation and to execute all agreements and contracts with the NCDOT, Public Transportation Division. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

2021-572 Contract-Alfa Laval - Westside Wastewater Treatment Plant - Sludge Dewatering Equipment Procurement

City Council is requested to award a contract to Alfa Laval in the amount of \$693,168.00 for the pre-purchase of sludge dewatering equipment that will be installed under a future contract that will be put out for bid for the Westside WWTP Sludge Dewatering System Improvements project.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve award of a contract to Alfa Laval in the amount of \$693,168.00 for the pre-purchase of sludge dewatering equipment that will be installed under a future contract that will be put out for bid for the Westside WWTP Sludge Dewatering System. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

2021-573 Contract-Ruston Paving Co.--Oak Hollow Park Paving-Tennis Center/Maintenance Facility/Campground

City Council is requested to award a contract to Ruston Paving Co. in the amount of \$374,845.00 for the paving of the entrance to the Campground from Centennial Street, all areas surrounding the indoor Tennis Center and the Maintenance facility and Section "C" of the campground.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve award of a contract to Ruston Paving Co. in the amount of \$374,845.00 for the paving of the entrance to the Campground from Centennial Street, all areas surrounding the indoor Tennis Center and the maintenance facility and Section "C" of the campground. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

2021-574 Resolution- Sale of City Owned Property - 302 & 309 Park Street

City Council is requested to adopt a resolution accepting the offer of \$10,000.00 authorizing the sale of 302 & 309 Park Street through the upset bid procedure of N.C.G.S. 160A-269, and direct the City Clerk to publish a public notice of the proposed sale in accordance with N.C.G.S. 160A-269.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Jones, to adopt a Resolution accepting the offer of \$10,000.00 and to authorize the sale of 302 and 309 Park Street through the upset bid procedure in accordance with N.C. General Statute 160A-269, and to direct the City clerk to publish a public notice of the proposed sale in accordance with N.C. General Statute 160A-269. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

**Resolution No. 2027/22-01
Resolution Book, Volume, XXI, Page 1**

2021-575 Resolution- Sale of City Owned Property - 1220 Carter Street

Council is requested to adopt a resolution accepting the offer of \$7,000.00 and authorizing the sale of 1220 Carter Street through the upset bid procedure of N.C.G.S. 160A-269 and direct the City Clerk to publish a public notice of the proposed sale in accordance with N.C.G.S. 160A-269.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Jones, to adopt a Resolution accepting the offer of \$7,000.00, to authorize the sale of 1220 Carter Street through the upset bid procedure in accordance with N.C. General Statute 160A-269, and to direct the City Clerk to publish a notice of the proposed sale in accordance with N.C. General Statute 160A-269. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

**Resolution No. 2028/22-02
Resolution Book, Volume XXI, Page 2**

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMSPLANNING & DEVELOPMENT - Mayor Jay W. WagnerPUBLIC HEARINGSPENDING ITEMS (Continued Public Hearings)**2021-508 HEPHIGHPT, LLC-Plan Amendment 21-04**

A request by HEPHIGHPT, LLC to change the Land Use Plan classification for approximately 13 acres from the Low-Density Residential classifications to the Local Convenience Commercial classification. The site is located at the southeast corner of Johnson Street and Skeet Club Road.

*The public hearing for this matter and accompanying matter **2021-509 HEPHIGHPT, LLC-Zoning Map Amendment 21-18** was held on Monday, November 15, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. and continued to Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the request of the applicant.*

Transcript

Mayor Wagner: *We're now to our regular agenda items. We have a continuation of some public hearings under Planning & Development. I'll be handling that item. The only item really is the Johnson Street/Skeet Club rezoning. I know we've got a lot of folks here who are interested in this, but I want to kind of give everybody kind of a rundown on how this show is going to happen tonight.*

First of all, we're going to begin.....this is a continued public hearing from the earlier hearing which I think was November 15th. So, the public hearing was opened on November 15th, and it was continued through until today. This is not a second public hearing. This is a continuation of the earlier public hearing. We are going to hear first from our staff who will give us a short presentation and an update on what's happened since November 15th. The applicant is then going to have the opportunity to present their information. They did not take that opportunity on November 15th, so this will be the first time we're hearing from them. Then, I will open the floor to the public for comments. If you did not get a chance to speak at the earlier public hearing, I'm going to call on you first. If you did get a chance to speak at the earlier public hearing, we've already heard from you so I'm not going to tell you you're not going to be allowed to speak tonight but I would prefer that you don't repeat what you said the last time. I have a list of everybody who spoke the last time, so if you could try to limit your comments to maybe whatever new information that is given tonight that would be good because I do want to try to keep this moving. Then once everybody has had a chance to speak, we'll see what happens. So, with that I am calling both Plan Amendment 21-04 and the accompanying Zoning Map Amendment 21-18 and we'll hear first from staff with their updated presentation.

Herb Shannon: *Mr. Mayor, Herb Shannon, Senior Planner with the City of High Point Planning & Development Department. Since it's almost been two months since the last public hearing on this item, staff would just like to do a brief summary.*

This is for Plan Amendment 21-04 and Zoning Map Amendment 21-18. At your November 15th public hearing, staff presented Plan Amendment application to change the Land Use Map classification for a 13-acre tract, and also a request for rezoning this tract at the southeast corner of Johnson Street and Skeet Club Road and the item was continued to tonight's public hearing. Just a brief overview.

The Land Use Plan Amendment application proposed to change the official land use map classification for this tract of land from the current Low Density Residential designation to the Local Convenience Commercial classification. This is a copy of the Land Use Map for this portion of the city. You can see the location of the site, those areas highlighted in yellow on the Land Use Map are designated for Low Density Residential use.

The staff recommended denial of the request because it would not be in harmony with the existing residential character of the surrounding area and there are no policies supporting the establishment of commercial use in this area. The zoning portion of this request for this 13-acre tract was to rezone it from the current Residential Single-Family 3 or R-3 District to a Conditional Zoning Retail Center district with a small segment of the property to be rezoned to Conditional Zoning Limited Business District. Staff also recommended denial of the zoning request because, as proposed, conditional zoning RC District conflicts with adopted policy guidance documents and would enable higher intensity regional type commercial development inconsistent with current land use policy.

We had noted last time that any decision that council makes sets policy for all four corners of this intersection. If council desires to amend the land use policy for this area, the staff report suggested the Limited Business or LB District be considered for the entire site, as the LB District is designed to accommodate Low to Moderate Intensity Office, Retail, and Personal Service uses adjacent to or within residential neighborhoods.

The LB District would reduce the intensity of the development and that would limit the development for the entire site to 50,000 square feet and would also prohibit some uses, the main one being the LB District does not include major restaurants (that's a restaurant with a drive-thru window) and that was one of the uses the applicant was seeking.

The Planning & Zoning Commission reviewed both the Plan Amendment and the Zoning Map Amendment at their October 26th public hearing. The Commission recommended denial of both request by a vote of 9-0 and because the zoning portion of the request is being forwarded to Council with a recommendation of denial from the Planning & Zoning Commission, it will require a 2/3 majority vote of council members present to approve.

In conclusion, last week the applicant submitted additional zoning conditions to staff for consideration. After staff reviewed, the Planning Department, Transportation Department reviewed these with the City Attorney's office. We determined that, except for the one condition they proposed to limit the site to only one major restaurant use, as drafted the remaining conditions are not valid or are not considered enforceable zoning conditions. Never-the-less, whether they are additional conditions or not, that does not change the staff recommendation of denial for this request as the conditions don't address the key issue. There are no policies supporting the establishment of commercial uses in this area.

The options for Council this evening: you can deny the request with the Findings submitted to you by the Planning & Zoning Commission; you could approve the request tonight with those initial zoning conditions that were presented at the November 15th public hearing; if you desire to review updated conditions, you would need to continue this case to allow staff time to draft valid and enforceable conditions and if there is any type of continuance, at a minimum we are recommending that it be continued to February 7th. The Transportation staff and the Planning staff, Mr. Chris Andrews and Andy Piper, are available for any questions you may have. That's a brief summary of where we're at at this point with this application.

Mayor Wagner: *Okay, anyone have any questions for staff?*

Council Member Moore: *Herb, during that quick review there you spoke of conditions and enforcement and you mentioned something about all four corners if something's done. Do you remember that part? Can you repeat that?*

Herb Shannon: *When Council reviews a Plan Amendment or a Zoning Map Amendment, you're setting policy. If it is the desire for Council to change policy to allow commercial zoning for this site, you are basically setting a precedent that other property owners on all four corners could use.*

Council Member Moore: *All four corners specific to this intersection or anywhere else?*

Herb Shannon: *This specific intersection.*

Council Member Moore: *Okay, thank you.*

Mayor Wagner: *Any other questions of staff? Okay, thank you Mr. Shannon. We'll now hear from the applicant or the applicant's representative.*

Andy Harris: *Good evening council members. My name is Andy Harris and I'm an attorney here in town with Wyatt Early Harris & Wheeler. Our client has asked us to request a continuance in part with the discussion I had with Mr. Shannon this morning, or this afternoon rather, regarding the conditions that we had drafted and sent over to him to review. He had some questions. We met with the city attorney's office before Christmas to discuss some of these conditions and go through them, but apparently there's some things that still need to get worked out. We also understand, learning today that Ms. Peters is unable to be here because of COVID and we would like to make our presentation, which we think is a great presentation, to the full Council for consideration.*

Mayor Wagner: *Does staff have a response to the request for a continuance?*

Herb Shannon: *We have no objection to that. That's a decision of Council.*

Mayor Wagner: *Before we consider that, I have a question for our Legal staff. What's your position on....I know it's come up before, that the applicant has the right to have their case heard by the full Council. What's your position on that?*

Assistant City Attorney Meghan Maguire: They do, but you all could either set the continuance to a date certain is what the requirement is if you want to allow them that opportunity. I believe under the law, it could go forward today because you have eight members here.

Mayor Wagner: Yeah, I mean there's a quorum present, so we have the ability to conduct business but in your opinion would there be any form of legal jeopardy with us hearing the case tonight and then maybe having to come back and rehear it?

Assistant City Attorney Meghan Maguire: No, just note that there's eight present today and you need the two-thirds vote for the zoning map amendment portion of it, so two-thirds vote would be six of the eight that would be needed for approval.

Mayor Wagner: I'm glad your math matches mine.

Assistant City Attorney Meghan Maguire: I did it before.

Mayor Wagner: Okay, I'm going to put it to the Council then for discussion on whether we want to grant another continuance. I think we've already continued this case twice if I'm not mistaken.

Assistant City Attorney Meghan Maguire: Just once.

Mayor Wagner: Okay, that's right. It was the other one we did twice. So, I'm putting it out for discussion.

Council Member Jones: I think we were very gracious and I still stand behind the stance that we did the right thing by granting this one continuance, but I think, Council, the citizens need an answer tonight.

Mayor Wagner: Okay, any other discussion? Anyone else have a position?

Council Member Johnson: I would agree. This is Councilman Johnson. That our citizens do need an answer tonight.

Mayor Wagner: If there is a desire to grant a continuance, the floor is open for a motion to that effect.

Council Member Hudson: I'll move for a continuance.

Mayor Wagner: There's a motion that has been made for a continuance. Would that be to a date certain?

Council Member Hudson: Yes.

Mayor Wagner: And what certain date would that be?

Assistant City Attorney Meghan Maguire: Staff is recommending February 7th to allow time for the discussion.

Council Member Hudson: *Okay, then I'll make a MOTION for the CONTINUANCE until February 7th.*

Mayor Wagner: *Okay, is there a second to that motion? Hearing no second for that motion, that motion fails for lack of a second.*

Okay, so we will proceed with the case tonight Mr. Harris.

Andy Harris: *I've been instructed by my client to withdraw the application.*

Mayor Wagner: *Staff, do you have any opposition to that? [none] Okay, hearing that, I will make a motion to remove Plan Amendment 21-04 and Zoning Map Amendment 21-18. So, I will make a motion to remove those two items from the agenda. Is there a second?*

Council Member Jones: *Second.*

Mayor Wagner: *Okay, a motion and a second to remove them. Any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor of removing those two items from the agenda, please signify by saying Aye.*

Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes: *Aye.*

Mayor Wagner: *Okay, is there anyone opposed? That motion passes unanimously. Thank you.*

Let the record state that the public hearing was closed prior to the vote.

[end of transcript]

A motion was made by Mayor Wagner, seconded by Council Member Jones, that this matter be withdrawn at the request of the applicant. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

2021-509 HEPHIGHPT, LLC-Zoning Map Amendment 21-18

A request by HEPHIGHPT, LLC to rezone approximately 13 acres from the Residential Single Family - 3 (R-3) District to a Conditional Zoning Retail Center (CZ-RC) District and a Conditional Zoning Limited Business (CZ-LB) District. The site is located at the southeast corner of Johnson Street and Skeet Club Road.

The public hearing for this matter and accompanying matter **2021-508 HEPHIGHPT, LLC-Plan Amendment 21-04** was held on Monday, November 15, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. and continued to Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the request of the applicant.

Note: For specific comments made during the public hearing and continued public hearing regarding this matter, please refer to **2021-508 HEPHIGHPT, LLC- Plan Amendment 21-04**.

A motion was made by Mayor Wagner, seconded by Council Member Jones, that this matter be withdrawn at the request of the applicant. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

GENERAL BUSINESS AGENDA**2022-1 Revisions to the Ordinance Establishing Dates & Times for Official Sessions of the High Point City Council**

City Council is requested to revise the 2022 Meeting Schedule and adopt a Revised Ordinance Establishing Dates and Times for Official Sessions of the High Point City Council reflecting:

Cancellation of the Monday, June 20th, 2022 Council Meeting due to the Juneteenth holiday, and rescheduling to Tuesday, June 21st, 2022.

Mayor Wagner explained this action reflects a correction to the meeting schedule as a result of action that was taken by the City Council at the December 20, 2021 Meeting to approve Juneteenth as a city observed holiday. He advised this would reschedule the Monday, June 20, 2021 Regular Meeting to Tuesday, June 21, 2021.

A motion was made by Mayor Wagner, seconded by Council Member Holmes, to adopt the Revised Ordinance Establishing Dates & Times for Official Sessions of the High Point City Council. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

Ordinance No. 7780/22-01
Ordinance Book, Volume XXII, Page 1

2022-3 Appointment- Parks & Recreation Commission

Council is requested to confirm the appointment of Dr. Nathan Morelli to the Parks & Recreation Commission as Councilman Holmes' Ward 6 appointee. Appointment to be effective immediately and will expire 7/1/2024.

Mayor Wagner moved to suspend the rules to add this appointment to the Parks & Recreation Commission on tonight's agenda for consideration. Council Member Johnson made a second to the motion, which carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

The mayor noted this is confirmation of the appointment of Dr. Nathan Morelli to the Parks & Recreation Commission as Councilman Holmes' Ward 6 appointee. He then turned the floor over to Council Member Holmes for comment.

Council Member Holmes noted that Dr. Morelli, a Ward 6 resident, could not attend tonight's meeting because he was out of the country and reported that he had a great discussion with Dr. Nathan Morelli. He expressed confidence that Dr. Morelli's background along with his extensive studies would prove him to be a great addition to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

A motion was made by Council Member Holmes, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the appointment of Dr. Nathan Morelli to the Parks & Recreation Commission as Council Member Holmes' Ward 6 appointee; appointment to be effective immediately and will expire 7/1/2024. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

2022-2 Minutes To Be Approved

December 16, 2021 Finance Committee Minutes @ 4:00 p.m.

December 20, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes @ 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Williams, to approve the preceding minutes as submitted. The motion carried by the following 8-0 unanimous vote:

Aye (8): Mayor Wagner, Council Member Moore, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Jefferson, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Jones, and Council Member Holmes

Absent (1): Mayor Pro Tem Peters

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**Collaborative Community Cleanup Initiative**

Council Member Jones mentioned a recent article that appeared in the High Point Enterprise on this initiative and offered stickers that could be placed on garbage totes that gives neighbors permission to throw litter in their totes.

Mayor Wagner provided an opportunity to Council Member Jones to report on his Community Collaborative CleanUp Initiative that encourages litter cleanup. Council Member Jones shared that this idea came to him as he regularly walks his puppy around Sailing Point every day, picks up trash/litter that is scattered, and he thought it would be a good idea if he could place the trash in his neighbor's totes instead of having to keep up with the trash on his walk. He noted that his design guy put together a logo on the Collaborative Community Cleanup sticker that neighbors can place on their totes to give others permission to place trash in their totes. He shared the idea on Next Door and it went viral and was picked up by Spectrum, High Point Enterprise, and Fox 8 News. He advised that Visit High Point did agree to be a distribution point and people from across the state have been calling to get some of the stickers.

Mayor Wagner felt this was a great idea and applauded Council Member Jones on the idea and how it became popular.

Prayers for Ed Price

Council Member Moore reported that Ed Price was in a serious car accident several days ago and asked everyone to keep Mr. Price and his family in their prayers.

Police Department Crime Statistics Report

Council Member Williams requested a copy of the Police Department Crime Statistics Report for 2021 that shows the hard work the Police Department has done over the past year. He suggested possibly having this as an agenda item for the next Public Safety Committee meeting. Council Member Jones, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, mentioned that he had approached the city manager about the possibility of having the next Public Safety Committee meeting at the new Police Department Headquarters on Westchester and that Ms. Logan Ford would be getting back with him as to the feasibility.

Greater High Point Food Alliance Food Security Summit

Council Member Williams announced that the Food Security Summit would be coming up on January 28th and encourage everyone to attend. He noted some of the topics that would be discussed are the impacts on poverty and housing; seniors; food security; health education; youth perspectives, etc.... and praised the Food Alliance for the great work they are doing in the community.

High Point Citizen of the Year

Council Member Jefferson gave a shout out to Leah Price, who was recently named the High Point Citizen of the Year and shared that she is a community advocate, civic leader, and someone who leads business as well and has done many great things.

Appreciation for Mayor Wagner's Press Release Regarding COVID

Council Member Jefferson expressed appreciation to Mayor Wagner for his recent Press Release and message regarding COVID and encouraging citizens to be safe and do the right thing.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade

Council Member Jefferson reminded everyone that the MLK Parade would be held on Sunday, January 16th and encouraged everyone to come out and celebrate the great day. He also encouraged everyone to make it a "day on" instead of a "day off" and noted that High Point University, the school system, and nonprofit organizations would be hosting volunteer projects for volunteers to honor the legacy of Dr. King, who was a man of service.

Update on Omicron COVID Variant in Guilford County

Mayor Wagner reiterated that the Omicron COVID variant right now in Guilford County is intense and spoke to the numbers that were shared yesterday from Cone Hospital that indicated their case numbers have gone way up. He noted that although the Omicron variant seems to be a little less virulent than that of the Delta variant, the fact that it is moving so quickly and infecting so many people is alarming because of the strain it is putting on the health care systems. He shared that information he received from Jim Hoekstra, President-High Point Medical Center, indicated that they are not in crisis mode yet, but only time would tell.

He reported that the spike is anticipated between January 9th and January 14th in this area and encouraged everyone to be extra cautious and careful in limiting exposure and continue to take the necessary precautions such as wearing masks, washing hands, working remotely, stay at home if you have heightened sensitivity and health risks, etc..... He reiterated that the hospitals are overwhelmed due to people going to the emergency room for testing and encouraged them to go to other places throughout the county that are offering testing.

Mayor Wagner mentioned that he has also been in discussions with Cone Health and Dr. Hoekstra about the possibility of ramping up remote testing facilities in High Point. He also encouraged citizens to contact federal officials to stimulate getting more therapeutic drugs out quicker because the federal government is purchasing and rationing the therapeutic drugs.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the City Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m. on motion by Council Member Jefferson and second by Council Member Moore.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay W. Wagner, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa B. Vierling, MMC
City Clerk